

PATENT COOPERATION TREA

PCT**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B1075.71017	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US2004/009619	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 29/03/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 28/03/2003
Applicant C.R. BARD, INC.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTROSURGICAL ABLATION

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 4

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US2004/009619

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B18/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/002329 A1 (AVITALL BOAZ) 3 January 2002 (2002-01-03) paragraphs '0074!, '0075!; figure 8 -----	1, 4
X	US 6 071 277 A (FARLEY BRIAN E ET AL) 6 June 2000 (2000-06-06) column 12, line 38 - column 13, line 8; figures 9,10 -----	1, 4
X	US 5 098 431 A (RYDELL MARK A) 24 March 1992 (1992-03-24) column 3, line 28 - line 51; figure 2 -----	28, 29, 31-35, 39, 46-48 1, 4, 7, 40, 41, 45, 49, 60
A	----- -/-	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 August 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/08/2004 ✓

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mayer-Martenson, E

1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US2004/009619

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 091 995 A (INGLE FRANK ET AL) 18 July 2000 (2000-07-18) column 15, line 25 – line 35; figure 13c -----	1-62
A	US 6 178 354 B1 (GIBSON CHARLES A) 23 January 2001 (2001-01-23) column 6, line 10 – line 28; figure 2 -----	41-62
A	US 5 555 618 A (WINKLER JOSEF) 17 September 1996 (1996-09-17) column 7, line 51 – column 8, line 2; figures 4a-d -----	1-62

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/009619

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2002002329	A1	03-01-2002	US 6308091 B1 US 6138043 A US 5842984 A US 5730127 A US 5687723 A US 5487385 A US 5921924 A AU 685559 B2 AU 1265495 A CA 2177982 A1 EP 0731665 A1 JP 3237849 B2 JP 9506017 T WO 9515115 A1	23-10-2001 24-10-2000 01-12-1998 24-03-1998 18-11-1997 30-01-1996 13-07-1999 22-01-1998 19-06-1995 08-06-1995 18-09-1996 10-12-2001 17-06-1997 08-06-1995
US 6071277	A	06-06-2000	US 6036687 A AU 733465 B2 AU 2073497 A CA 2248260 A1 EP 0921765 A1 JP 2000511787 T WO 9732532 A1 US 6135997 A US 2003191512 A1 US 6613045 B1 US 6033397 A US 6139527 A US 6638273 B1 US 6033398 A US 6152899 A	14-03-2000 17-05-2001 22-09-1997 12-09-1997 16-06-1999 12-09-2000 12-09-1997 24-10-2000 09-10-2003 02-09-2003 07-03-2000 31-10-2000 28-10-2003 07-03-2000 28-11-2000
US 5098431	A	24-03-1992	CA 2037242 A1	04-01-1992
US 6091995	A	18-07-2000	AU 735863 B2 CA 2267556 A1 EP 0964652 A1 JP 2001523987 T WO 9819613 A1 US 2003195604 A1 US 2003195593 A1 US 6772013 B1 US 2004034400 A1 US 6587731 B1 US 6546934 B1 US 2002032441 A1 AU 7000198 A	19-07-2001 14-05-1998 22-12-1999 27-11-2001 14-05-1998 16-10-2003 16-10-2003 03-08-2004 19-02-2004 01-07-2003 15-04-2003 14-03-2002 29-05-1998
US 6178354	B1	23-01-2001	CA 2351323 A1 CA 2353454 A1 DE 1133264 T1 EP 1133264 A1 EP 1135078 A1 JP 2002531164 T JP 2002531165 T WO 0032129 A1 WO 0032130 A1	08-06-2000 08-06-2000 04-07-2002 19-09-2001 26-09-2001 24-09-2002 24-09-2002 08-06-2000 08-06-2000
US 5555618	A	17-09-1996	US 5417208 A	23-05-1995

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/009619

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5555618	A	AU 3585195 A	03-07-1996
		EP 0782409 A1	09-07-1997
		JP 10510731 T	20-10-1998
		WO 9618339 A1	20-06-1996
		AT 147958 T	15-02-1997
		DE 69401562 D1	06-03-1997
		DE 69401562 T2	15-05-1997
		DK 647435 T3	14-07-1997
		EP 0647435 A1	12-04-1995
		ES 2098872 T3	01-05-1997
		GR 3022910 T3	30-06-1997
		JP 7222808 A	22-08-1995
		US RE35924 E	13-10-1998